acquisition of land, the project authorities expect the project to be commissioned in 44 months.

Assets of SSPL and Bengal Immunity

898. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether productive assets of Messrs SSPL and Bengal Immunity are remaining unutilised for want of working capital, in spite of market demand for-anti-malaria drugs, etc.; and

(b) if so, the time-bound steps taken by Government so far to maintain 'holding-on operation' till final decision at BIFR?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) and (b) Pending the decision regarding the future of these companies by the Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), Government has been releasing nor-plan funds from time to time to enable payment of wages and salaries to the employees/ workers of these companies.

Consumption of urea

899. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the rate of increase in consumption of urea in India and in West Bengal for the last three years;

(b) the actual consumption of urea in West Bengal for the last three years;

(c) the production capacity and actual production of urea in the State for the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to increase production of urea within the State *vis-a-vis* consumption?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF